CLAIMS

1. A gene coding for the following protein (a) or (b):

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO: 1

(b) a protein having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1 by deletion, substitution or addition of one or a plurality of amino acids and having p51 activity.

2. A gene comprising the following DNA (a) or (b):

(a) a DNA having a nucleotide sequence identified by the nucleotide numbers 145~1488 of the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2

(b) a DNA capable of hybridizing with the DNA having a nucleotide sequence identified by the nucleotide numbers 145~1488 of the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2 under stringent conditions and coding for a protein having p51 activity.

3. A gene as defined in Claim 2 which has the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2.

4. A cDNA comprising the following DNA (a) or (b):

(a) a DNA having a nucleotide sequence identified by the nucleotide numbers 145-1488 of the nucleotide sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:2

(b) a DNA capable of hybridizing with a DNA having a nucleotide sequence identified by the nucleotide numbers 145-1488 of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 under stringent conditions and coding for a protein having p51 activity.

5. A DNA characterized in that it is capable of hybridizing with the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 under stringent conditions.

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6. A DNA characterized in that it is capable of the hybridizing with a nucleotide sequence identified by the nucleotide numbers 145-1488 of SEQ ID NO:2 under stringent conditions.

7. The DNA defined in Claim 5 for use as a primer.

8. The DNA defined in Claim 5 for use as a probe.

9. A protein defined under (a) or (b) below:

(a) a protein having the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1

(b) a protein having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 by deletion, substitution or addition of one or a plurality of amino acids and having p51 activity.

10. A protein as claimed in Claim 9 at least

containing the amino acid sequences identified by the amino acid numbers 1~59, amino acid numbers 142-321, and amino acid numbers 359~397 of the amino acid sequence shown under SEQ ID NO:1.

11. A polypeptide having an amino acid sequence, in SEQ ID NO:1, which has at least one function selected from the group consisting of transcriptional activation function, DNA binding function and oligomerization function.

12. A polypeptide as defined under (a) or (b) below:

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence identified by the amino acid numbers 1-59 of SEQ ID NO:1

(b) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence defined under (a) by deletion, substitution or addition of one or a plurality of amino acids and having a transcriptional activation function.

13. A polypeptide as defined under (a) or (b) below:

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence identified by the amino acid numbers 142-321 of SEQ ID NO:1

(b) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence defined under (a) by

deletion, substitution or addition of one or a plurality of amino acids and having a DNA binding function.

14. A polypeptide as defined under (a) or (b) below:

(a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence identified by the amino acid numbers 359~397 of SEQ ID NO:1

(b) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence derived from the amino acid sequence defined under (a) by deletion, substitution or addition of one or a plurality of amino acids and having an oligomerization function.

15. A gene comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for the polypeptide defined in Claim 12 or 13.

16. A vector harboring the gene claimed in Claim 1.

17. A host cell transformed with the vector claimed in Claim 16.

18. A method of producing the protein claimed in Claim 10 which comprises growing the host cell defined in Claim 17 in a culture medium and harvesting a protein from the resulting culture.